

REMARKS

In paragraph 5 of the Office action, claims 1-12 and 14-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Medlock et al. (6,567,017) in view of Taipale (6,310,856). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The primary reference to Medlock et al. is directed to a configurable code generator system for spread spectrum applications. The code generator is useful in the field of wireless communication, in particular, in apparatus and methods for processing digital spread spectrum signals. See Column 1, lines 37-41. The Office has not demonstrated why a person of ordinary skill in the art, faced with the problem of generating a test pattern of pseudo random bit sequence for calibration of a delay locked loop within a memory device communicating with a controller, would look to Medlock et al. for a solution. Thus, it is applicants' position that Medlock et al. is nonanalogous art.

Addressing Medlock et al. on the merits, all of the independent claims of the instant application have been amended to make it clear that a first group of bit lines is being selected from a plurality of bit lines (or from a bus) to carry a first plurality of signals (or data patterns). One of the remaining bit lines from the first plurality of bit lines (or from the bus) is selected to carry a second plurality of signals (or data patterns). Such selection is discussed in the paragraph bridging pages 10 and 11 of applicants' disclosure. In this manner, the plurality of bit lines, or the data bus, is robustly challenged so as to ensure accurate calibration of the delay locked loop. No such selection is found in the primary reference to Medlock et al.

Because Medlock et al. fails as a primary reference, the addition of the secondary references fails to overcome the deficiencies in the Office's position. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 1, 5, 8, and 14 are now in condition for allowance.

At this time, applicants do not submit arguments in support of the patentability of the dependent claims. Applicants reserve the right to submit such arguments at a later time should that become necessary.

Appl. No. 10/766,386
Amdt. dated 10 January 2007
Reply to Office Action of 10 October 2006

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the instant application in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested for claims 1-23. If the examiner is of the opinion that the instant application is in condition for disposition other than through allowance, the examiner is requested to contact applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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